

Application No. 09/967,232
Amendment dated June 18, 2007
Reply to Office Action of March 29, 2007

Docket No.: 47171-00305USP1

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 5-29 with the following paragraph:

Still referring to FIG. 1a, the transport mechanism 106 is adapted to transport the documents, one at a time, through the device 100 in the direction of arrow A, past the currency detector 110 and the media detector 112, and to the output receptacle 108. The currency detector 110 is adapted to detect one or more predetermined characteristics on a currency bill or on a particular kind of substitute currency medium, such as a Disney Dollar, and the media detector 112 is adapted to detect one or more predetermined characteristics on a particular kind of substitute currency medium, such as a barcode on a barcoded ticket, as explained in more detail in connection with FIG. 1b. The currency detector 110 comprises one or more sensors depending on a number of variables. The variables relate to whether the device 100 is authenticating, counting, or discriminating denominations of currency bills, and what distinguishing characteristics of the currency bills are being examined, for example, size, thickness, color, magnetism, reflectivity, absorbability, transmissivity, electrical conductivity, serial number, and so forth. The currency detector 110 may also employ a variety of detection means including, but not limited to, any combination of the following: a size detector, a density sensor, an upper optical scan head, a lower optical scan head, a single or plurality of magnetic sensors, a thread sensor, an infrared sensor, an ultraviolet/fluorescent light scan head, or an image scanner. These detection means and a host of others are disclosed in commonly assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,278,795, entitled "Multi-Pocket Currency Discriminator," which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety, and co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[____]] 09/965,428, entitled "[[A]] Document Processing System Using Full Image Scanning," filed on September 27, 2001, issued as U.S. Patent No. 7,187,795, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety. Examples of discriminating denomination information from a currency bill are shown and disclosed in commonly assigned U.S. Patent No. 5,815,592, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 30 and ending on page 10, line 17 with the following paragraph:

In the specific case of substitute currency media, the variables may also relate to what distinguishing characteristics of the substitute currency media are being examined, such as any

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combination of the following without limitation: a barcode, a magnetic ink character recognition (MICR) pattern, characters readable by optical character recognition (OCR), including information printed according to the OCR-A and OCR-B fonts, a magnetic pattern, an optical variable device (OVD) pattern such as a hologram, a magnetic or electrically conductive thread, conductive ink, magnetic ink, an electrically conductive polymer, perforations, a coded watermark, or other encoded information. The detection of these distinguishing characteristics may be carried out by the media detector 112, which, in alternate embodiments, may employ a variety of detection means including, but not limited to, any combination of the following: a barcode reader, an optical scan head, a magnetic sensor, a thread sensor, an infrared sensor, an ultraviolet/fluorescent light scan head, or an image scanner. These detection means and a host of others are disclosed in commonly assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,278,795, entitled "Multi-Pocket Currency Discriminator," previously incorporated by reference, and co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[____]] 09/965,428, entitled "[[A]] Document Processing System Using Full Image Scanning," filed on September 27, 2001, issued as U.S. Patent No. 7,187,795, also previously incorporated by reference, and may be modified in accordance with the present invention to detect distinguishing characteristics associated with substitute currency media.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 28 and ending on page 24, line 20 with the following paragraph:

FIGS. 4a and 4b illustrate the evaluation region 204 according to one embodiment of the device 200. The evaluation region 204 can be opened for service, access to sensors, to clear document jams, *etc.*, as shown in FIG. 4a. Additional details of the evaluation region 204 are provided with reference to the evaluation region 104 shown and described in FIG. 1b. As previously explained, the evaluation region 204 shown in FIG. 4a may employ any combination of the following detection means without limitation in one or more alternate embodiments: a size detection and density sensor 408, a lower optical scan head 410, an upper optical scan head 412, a single or multitude of magnetic sensors 414, a thread sensor 416, an infrared sensor (not shown), an ultraviolet/fluorescent light scan head 418, an upper media detector 403a, or a lower media detector 403b. As noted in connection with FIG. 1b, these detection means may be disposed in any order and on either or both sides of the transport plate 400 without departing from the present invention. These detection means and a host of others are disclosed in

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commonly assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,278,795, entitled "Multi-Pocket Currency Discriminator," previously incorporated by reference, and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. [[]] 09/965,428, entitled "[[A]] Document Processing System Using Full Image Scanning," filed on September 27, 2001, also previously incorporated by reference. As noted above, in the specific case of substitute currency media, the variables may also relate to what distinguishing characteristics of the substitute currency media are being examined, such as any combination of the following without limitation: a barcode, a MICR pattern, OCR-readable information, including information printed according to the OCR-A and OCR-B fonts, a magnetic pattern, an OVD pattern such as a hologram, a magnetic thread or an electrically conductive thread, conductive ink, or an electrically conductive polymer.